

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**Invertebrate Abstract**

**Element Code:** IIORTC6010

**Data Sensitivity:** No

**CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE**

**NAME:** *Conalcaea cantralli*

**COMMON NAME:** A Grasshopper

**SYNONYMS:**

**FAMILY:** Acrididae

**AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION:** Gurney, 1951.

**TYPE LOCALITY:**

**TYPE SPECIMEN:**

**TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS:**

**DESCRIPTION:** For the family Acrididae (Short-horned Grasshoppers): They get their name from their short, horn-shaped antennae, which are usually less than half the length of the body. They are 0.5-3.25 inches (1.3-8.3 cm) long. These common grasshoppers have a 3-segmented tarsi and one flat, round hearing organ called tympana on each side of the first abdominal segment. The pronotum does not extend over the abdomen.

**AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:**

**ILLUSTRATIONS:**

**TOTAL RANGE:** Arizona.

**RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA:** See "Total Range."

**SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS**

**BIOLOGY:** This family of grasshoppers produces a low buzzing sound by rubbing the roughened surfaces of their hind wings against the fore wings. Many members of this family attack crop plants. Grasshoppers are active most exclusively in the daytime. This means that courtship and mating take place under conditions in which it is possible for the participants to

view each other. It is not surprising then, that courtship, where it exists, depends heavily on visual displays involving various parts of the body.

**REPRODUCTION:** For the family, females lay eggs in large masses below the surface of the ground. During laying, the eggs are covered in a layer of foam, which hardens as it dries, giving a degree of protection from desiccation, predators, and parasites.

**FOOD HABITS:** For the family, they are exclusively vegetarian.

**HABITAT:** Shrubland, chaparral.

**ELEVATION:** Unknown.

**PLANT COMMUNITY:** Unknown.

**POPULATION TRENDS:** Unknown.

### **SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION**

<b>ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS:</b>	None
<b>STATE STATUS:</b>	None
<b>OTHER STATUS:</b>	None

**MANAGEMENT FACTORS:**

**PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:**

**SUGGESTED PROJECTS:** Life history studies, population surveys, and range distribution studies need to be performed.

**LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:**

### **SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**

#### **REFERENCES:**

- BISON. Available: [http://www.fw.vt.edu/fishex/nmex\\_main/species/120810.htm](http://www.fw.vt.edu/fishex/nmex_main/species/120810.htm).
- Borror, D.J. & R.E. White. 1970. A Field Guide to Insects, America north of Mexico. Houghton Mifflin Company. Boston, Massachusetts. Pp. 78.
- NatureServe. 2003. An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 1.8. Arlington, Virginia, USA: NatureServe. Available: <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: March 16, 2004).

Preston-Mafham, R. & K. Preston-Mafham. 1993. The Encyclopedia of Land Invertebrate Behavior. The MIT Press. Cambridge, Massachusetts. Pp. 48, 55, 137, 249.

**MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Some of these are called locusts from the Latin word for grasshopper.

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